

FPA Prototype Areas Added Value of Prototype Areas

FPA Prototype areas were considered based on the following criteria:

- An existing productive interagency planning effort
- Representation of each agency
- Representation of major ecotypes
- Range of program complexities represented (including fire occurrence, fuels, fire use, etc.)
- Geography
- Planning complexity
- Volume of land mass
- Ready and willing partners
- Good available data
- Good skills

The following prototype areas have been selected. Not all areas met all criteria, but the combination of all areas will provide for testing that will encompass the majority of the anticipated complexities associated with the FPA process.

Alaska

- Large area geographically
- Existing interagency fire management plan
- Full scope of appropriate management responses
- Multiple agencies and Native American affiliation
- Alaska Fire Service provides bulk of fire management service

Central Oregon

- Interagency fire management program in place between the US Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management. Park Service has small landholding. Bureau of Indian Affairs represented by the Warm Springs Agency
- Fuel types from sage/grass, ponderosa pine to subalpine forest

Southern Sierra

- Ongoing and well developed partnership including National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, US Forest Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, California Department of Forestry as well as local government cooperators

Southeast Mississippi

- Planning unit is primarily non-federal ownership
- Urban interface, rural, small wilderness
- Represents southern fuel types
- Combines small federal ownerships with little fire occurrence with other ownership with a higher fire occurrence
- Non-contiguous federal ownership

- Large number of rural fire departments
- Low existing level of interagency fire management planning
- Potential to expand process to a statewide planning effort with few problems anticipated